IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing a triggering mechanism in an all-IP wireless communication system, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

probing a plurality of <u>end-to-end</u> communication paths between a mobile terminal and a correspondent node to obtain at least one QoS parameter associated with each said communication path;

identifying each said communication path that provides a predetermined acceptable level of performance; and

generating a handoff trigger to said communication path that provides the highest level of performance to said mobile terminal.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one QoS parameter is selected from a group of QoS parameters consisting of packet delay, packet jitter, packet loss and bandwidth.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ ranking each said communication path according to a predicted level of performance.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed</u> using ~~step uses~~ a weighted-based ranking.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed using</u> ~~step uses~~ a perception-based ranking.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said correspondent node comprises a fixed terminal.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said correspondent node comprises a mobile terminal.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ considering a cost factor.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ considering a user preference setting on said mobile terminal.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ considering load balancing on said all-IP wireless communication system.

11.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing a triggering mechanism in an all-IP wireless communication system, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

establishing a plurality of end-to-end communication paths between a mobile terminal and a correspondent node;

obtaining at least one QoS parameter for each said end-to-end communication path;

identifying each said end-to-end communication path that satisfies a predetermined

acceptable level of performance; and

generating a handoff trigger to said end-to-end communication path that provides the

highest QoS to said mobile terminal.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said at least one QoS parameter is

selected from a group of QoS parameters consisting of packet delay, packet jitter, packet loss and

bandwidth.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising ~~the step of~~

ranking each said communication path according to a predicted level of performance.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed</u>

<u>using</u> ~~step uses~~ a weighted-based ranking.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed</u>

<u>using</u> ~~step uses~~ a perception-based ranking.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said correspondent node comprises a

fixed terminal.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said correspondent node comprises a

mobile terminal.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing triggering mechanism in an all-IP wireless communication system, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

providing a mobile terminal connected to a plurality of AP/R pairs;

obtaining for each AP/R pair at least one QoS parameter that is defined by an end-to-end communication path between said mobile terminal and a correspondent node;

identifying each said AP/R pair that passes a predefined QoS requirement associated with said QoS parameter;

ranking said AP/R pairs according to a predicted level of performance using said at least one QoS parameter; and

generating a handoff trigger directing said mobile terminal to hand off to said AP/R pair providing a highest QoS to said mobile terminal.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one QoS parameter is selected from a group of QoS parameters consisting of packet delay, packet jitter, packet loss and bandwidth.

20.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed</u> <u>using</u> ~~step uses~~ a weighted-based ranking.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein ~~said~~ ranking <u>is performed</u> <u>using</u> ~~step uses~~ a perception-based ranking.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said correspondent node comprises a fixed terminal.

23. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said correspondent node comprises a mobile terminal.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one QoS parameter comprises a layer 3 QoS evaluation parameter corresponding to each said end-to-end communication path.

25. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one QoS parameter comprises a layer 3 QoS evaluation parameter corresponding to each said end-to-end communication path.

26. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the at least one QoS parameter comprises a layer 3 QoS evaluation parameter corresponding to each said end-to-end communication path.